

# Recommendations

Many of Wisconsin's recommendations to USEPA and to the Congress can be addressed through a reauthorization of the Clean Water Act. These needs include national leadership on criteria, program guidance and funding commensurate with the range of activities required to fully implement the Clean Water Act. *Wisconsin recommends the following actions to Congress, USEPA and the Coast Guard:*



Finalize national nutrient criteria guidance for surface waters.



Establish a schedule for the completion of national sediment quality criteria guidance.



Reauthorize the Beach Act and implement program improvements identified during the first five years of program implementation.



Establish a more clearly defined and achievable program to develop and implement TMDLs, including developing national criteria for designating and delisting 303d impaired waters and leading multi-state efforts for regional issues, such as mercury TMDLs and listings.



Develop clear regulations for discharges from sanitary sewer overflows.



Regulate atmospheric mercury to levels that are protective of fish and aquatic life.



Fund monitoring programs and require states to use the same criteria for biological assessment protocols. Provide fiscal support to states to improve the useability of STORET.



EPA should develop a sediment remediation program which includes specific standards or quality criteria, timelines for implementation and a funding system to provide assistance to states for building state capacity and conducting remedial projects for sites identified in remedial action plans and lakewide management plans as a means of reducing toxicant body burdens in Great Lakes fish and wildlife.



Develop guidance that requires integration of water program standards and regulation of substances through the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA); the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); the Clean Air Act and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).



Address discrepancies between regulatory clean up levels for PCBs under Superfund and clean up levels needed for water quality and aquatic life.



Develop and enforce controls under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, Rodenticide Act for compounds found to be problematic for groundwater quality to a level protective of groundwater.



Increase funding for Clean Water Act Section 106, 319, 104b(3) and 205(j) or local 604(b) related water quality efforts without sacrificing funding from other programs.



Develop technical guidance and resources to support decisions related to wetland and riparian zone protection and management, particularly buffers for sensitive areas vulnerable to runoff.



Modernize and simplify the permit compliance system (PCS) system for the NPDES program or implement other information systems or reporting mechanisms needed for the program.



Congress should develop a continuing appropriation for USEPA and delegated states to support data systems needed to implement the Clean Water Act including monitoring, assessment, and permitting activities using new technologies that integrate complex data and allow dissemination of that data to partners, stakeholders and the public.